GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1339
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2017
Ban on Import of Stainless Steel
Patel Shri Prahlad Singh

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that blanket ban on imports of stainless steel materials is reportedly choking the capital good industry due to unavailability of quality substance of new age grades and the sizes in domestic market in the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government has received any petition regarding the above mentioned matter;
(d) if so, details thereof and the action was taken by the Government thereon; and
(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for domestic production of the above said steel in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) : There is no ban on import of stainless steel materials under Foreign Trade Policy, 2015-20.

(b) : Does not arise.

(c) & (d): Yes Madam. Process Plant and Machinery Association of India (PPMAI) has recently submitted representation suggesting, inter alia, a blanket ban on import of stainless steel products. A blanket ban on import is not feasible as it will be WTO incompatible. However, anti-dumping duty is already in place since October, 2012 on imports of Stainless Steel Cold Rolled Flat Products of 400 series having width below 600 mm originating in/exported from European Union, Republic of Korea and the USA for 5 years. In June, 2015, Govt imposed anti-dumping duty on imports of Hot Rolled Flat Products of Stainless Steel of grade 304 of width up to 1650 mm from China, Malaysia and Republic of Korea for 5 years. Further, in December 2015, anti-dumping duty was imposed on imports of Cold Rolled Stainless Steel Flat Products having width of 600 mm to 1250 mm originating in/exported from PR China, Republic of Korea, European Union, South Africa, Taiwan (Chinese Taipei), Thailand and the USA for a period of 5 years.

(e): Government has released the National Steel Policy 2017, which has laid down the broad roadmap for encouraging long term growth for the Indian steel industry. To address the issue of quality, Ministry of Steel has issued Stainless Steel (Quality Control) Order, dated 10 June, 2016 covering 3 Stainless Steel Flat Products. This Order also prohibits production, import & distribution of sub standard products of stainless steel, thereby making the quality steel available for the end users.
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